

Message Text

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O 102245Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 091777

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNRWA, LE

SUBJECT: VISIT OF LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANTS TO UNRWA
AREAS

REFS: (A) STATE 033062; (B) MCELHINEY/NORRIS
TELCON OF 4/7; (C) BEIRUT 2012

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO UNRWA COMMISSIONER
GENERAL MCELHINEY.

2. PROFESSIONAL STAFF MEMBERS OF SENATE FOREIGN RELA-
TIONS COMMITTEE PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE STUDY OF UNRWA
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AS CALLED FOR IN FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1978. PAR-
TICIPANTS WILL BE RICHARD MCCALL, FORMERLY OF THE STAFFS
OF SENATORS MCGEE AND HUMPHREY AND GEORGE W. ASHWORTH,
WITH SFRC SINCE 1972. NORRIS UNABLE TO ACCOMPANY TEAM.

3. TEAM PLANS ON ARRIVING BEIRUT APRIL 22 (EXACT
ETA WILL FOLLOW) AND DEPARTING ISRAEL APRIL 29. UNRWA

AND EMBASSIES REQUESTED TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS WITHIN FOLLOWING TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

- BEIRUT: APRIL 22 (P.M.) TO 24 (POST-LUNCH)
- DAMASCUS: APRIL 24-25
- AMMAN: APRIL 26-27
- JERUSALEM: APRIL 27 (AFTERNOON) TO 29 (EARLY A.M.)

4. FOLLOWING ARE SUGGESTIONS WITHIN ABOVE TIME-FRAME. TEAM SUGGESTS SMALL WORKING DINNER APRIL 22 INCLUDING IF POSSIBLE MCELHINEY, AMBASSADOR, ROBERT PREVOT AND ONE OR TWO OTHERS AS APPROPRIATE. BRIEFINGS BY UNRWA AND EMBASSY SHOULD BE GIVEN SUNDAY. TEAM DESIROUS OF VISITING UNRWA OPERATIONS IN SIDON AREA, IF LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT.

5. TEAM EXPECTS TO MOTOR TO DAMASCUS AFTERNOON OF 24TH. MEETINGS WITH EMBASSY, UNRWA AND GOS OFFICIALS REQUESTED DURING SOJOURN. VISIT TO LOCAL CAMPS DESIRABLE. TEAM WOULD PROCEED TO AMMAN BY CAR THE 26TH STOPPING EN ROUTE TO VISIT AN UNRWA-SERVED CAMP IF CONVENIENT. AMONG OTHERS, TEAM DESIROUS OF SPEAKING WITH GOJ MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIALS. TEAM WOULD CONFIDENTIAL

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EXPECT TO CROSS ALLENBY BRIDGE INTO ISRAEL APRIL 27.

6. OWING TO TIME CONSTRAINTS, TEAM WOULD EXPECT TO CONFINE ACTIVITIES TO WEST BANK AND ISRAEL. ALONG WITH APPROPRIATE UNRWA AND GOI OFFICIALS, WOULD APPRECIATE CHANCE FOR TEAM TO DISCUSS ISSUES WITH KNOWLEDGEABLE OPPOSITION LEADERS. ASSUME UNRWA MIGHT ARRANGE FOR GAZA STRIP FIELD OFFICER TO MEET TEAM IN JERUSALEM. AMONG GOI OFFICIALS, TEAM HAS SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED GIDEON MAKANARIUM OF OFFICE OF TERRORISM, MAJ. GEN. GAZIT, Yael VERED, COL. MILSON AND MAJ. GEN. ORLI OF DEFENSE MINISTRY. (SPELLINGS UNCERTAIN)

7. TEAM PREPARED TO ADJUST SCHEDULE AFTER ARRIVAL AS REQUIRED BY LOCAL CONDITIONS, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF REFTEL (C). UNRWA AND EMBASSIES' EFFORTS TO ACCOMMODATE TEAM REQUIREMENTS DURING THIS TIGHT SCHEDULE WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. HOWEVER, NO PARTIES OR OTHER STRICTLY SOCIAL ACTIVITIES ARE REQUIRED OR DESIRED. TEAM PREPARED TO HOST WORKING LUNCHEONS OR DINNERS AS AND WHERE APPROPRIATE. CAMP VISITS SHOULD NOT BE ROUTINE OR REPETITIOUS. TEAM

INTERESTED IN OBSERVING DETAILS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTION
AND CAMP MANAGEMENT AS IT RELATES TO UNRWA.

8. SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL (C) CONVEYED TO MCCALL
AND ASHWORTH WHO NEVERTHELESS EXPRESSED STRONG
DESIRE TO VISIT LEBANON IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. THEIR
SCHEDULE AND MOVEMENT WOULD OF COURSE BE SUBJECT TO
EMBASSY'S ADVICE.

9. EMBASSIES REQUESTED TO ASSIST AS APPROPRIATE WITH
CURRENCY EXCHANGE, BORDER CROSSINGS AND ACCOMMODATIONS.
TEAM REQUESTS TWO SINGLE ROOMS WITH BATH IN BEIRUT,
DAMASCUS, AMMAN AND JERUSALEM. PLEASE ADVISE ANY
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SPECIAL PROBLEMS OR WORSENING OF SECURITY SITUATION. VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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